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APPENDIX XXVI.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

***Statement of action taken by the Government on the Resolution passed during the first Session of the Fourth Legislative Council* 1930-31.**

Serial number and resolution.	When passed by the Council.	Nature of action taken by the Government.
1. That this Council recommends to the Government, that, with reference to the recommendations of the Economic Enquiry Committee, the proposed resettlement in Kistna and East and West Godavari districts be not given effect to.	29th January 1931.	The Government have decided not to accept the recommendation of the Economic Enquiry Committee that the resettlement proposals should not be given effect to, and in G.O. No. 1486 (21-8), Revenue, dated the 11th July 1931, have directed that the revised rates proposed by the Special Settlement Officer should be introduced in the three districts with effect from 1st July 1931. The Government Order has been made available to the Press.

APPENDIX XXVII.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE, FROM THE 6TH TO 8TH AUGUST 1931.

I.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 6TH AUGUST 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee to-day discussed the expenditure of the Public Health Department. A proposal to combine the Medical and Public Health Departments under a single head was discussed, but the Committee finally agreed that such a step would be inadvisable. They considered, however, that the number of Assistant Directors of Public Health might be reduced and asked the Acting Director of Public Health who was present to examine the possibility of reducing the strength of the district health staffs. The Committee also examined a number of specific suggestions for economy made by the Acting Director. Some of these they accepted, such as the abolition of the special malaria officer, the postponement of the quinquennial training of health inspectors, the abolition of the post of planters' health officer and the abolition of compounders working under the L.M.P. health inspectors

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in the Agency. In other respects the Committee were prepared to go beyond the recommendations of the Director. They recommended, for instance, the abolition of the rural sanitation officer, and the special rural sanitation units; also the abolition of the propaganda officer working under the Director and the abandonment of propaganda work except through the agency of the district health staffs.

2. The Committee then considered the grant for anti-drink propaganda and recommended that it should be abolished at the earliest possible date, retaining a small sum only for subsidizing certain temperance associations.

3. They also considered that the clerical staff now employed in Collectors' offices for the tabulation of vital statistics might be dispensed with and the work entrusted to a small staff employed under the Director of Public Health.

4. The Committee commenced their examination of the sanitary engineering establishments, but eventually adjourned further consideration of this and other matters connected with the Public Health budget until Saturday, the 8th August.

II.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 7TH AUGUST 1931.

In the morning the Committee examined the Surgeon-General, the Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads, and the two Executive Engineers concerned regarding the General Hospital remodelling scheme and the Headquarter hospital scheme in Madura. As regards the former, the Committee decided to recommend that all items, with a few specified exceptions for which commitments have not yet been entered into, should be stopped. They were unable to come to a definite conclusion regarding the new venereal diseases block for which a contract has not yet been given and finally decided to inspect the premises to-morrow morning in company with the Executive Engineer, the Superintendent of the hospital and the Venereal Diseases Specialist. The Committee also decided to recommend the stoppage of further work on the construction of the Medical College hostel.

2. As regards the Madura Headquarter hospital scheme, they made a similar recommendation to the effect that pending re-examination of the scheme by Government, all further works should be stopped as far as possible.

3. In the afternoon the Committee took up the Surgeon-General's proposals for immediate and recurring economies on colleges, schools and medical institutions. The discussion centred primarily round the question whether the Vizagapatam Medical College and the Tanjore Medical School should be retained or discontinued. The Committee finally decided by a majority to recommend that the Vizagapatam College should not be abolished, but that economies amounting to about half a lakh in expenditure and half a lakh by way of increase in revenue might be effected.

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4. As to the Tanjore Medical School, the majority of the Committee favoured its abolition on the understanding that it would not in itself involve large additional expenditure on the Rayapuram school building scheme.

5. A number of detailed reductions of staffs proposed by the Surgeon-General in various medical institutions and hospitals were agreed to with slight modifications together with certain immediate and non-recurring savings on stores and similar items.

III.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 8TH AUGUST 1931.

The members of the Retrenchment Committee who paid a visit to the General Hospital this morning agreed as a result of their inspection that the building of the new venereal block was necessary and should be proceeded with.

2. The Committee then completed their examination of the remaining items in the Medical Department budget. They agreed with the Surgeon-General that the fees for post-graduate courses of study in medical colleges should be increased and, after examining the Principal School of Indian Medicine, recommended an enhancement of fees and a reduction in the number of free studentships and in the value of stipends, in addition to certain minor economies, in that institution and the hospital attached to it.

3. The Committee then took up the question of the retention of the Director of Town Planning and finally agreed to recommend that this post should be combined with that of Consulting Architect to Government and that the activities of the Director should be confined for the next few years chiefly to the execution of the schemes in progress rather than the investigation of new schemes.

4. As regards the Sanitary Engineering Department the Committee came to the conclusion that, in view of the probability of decreased expenditure in future years and the financial situation, the post of Sanitary Engineer might be converted into that of Deputy Chief Engineer (Water-supply and Drainage) and that the number of Deputy Sanitary Engineers should be reduced from 4 to 2 and should be officers of the grade of Assistant Engineers. They also recommend the abolition of the personal assistant and a corresponding reduction in the subordinate staffs.

5. The Committee then examined the question of the scale of grants for water-supply and drainage schemes in future years. Taking into consideration the actual expenditure of the last few years and the present and the prospective financial position of the Presidency, they recommended that for mufassal local bodies and rural water-supply and drainage schemes the total grant should not exceed about Rs. 10½ lakhs in future, as against the present budget provision of nearly Rs. 16 lakhs. They also expressed the opinion that grants to the Madras Corporation for similar purposes in future should not exceed about Rs. 3 lakhs a year.

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6. The Committee then adjourned and will resume their sittings in Madras about the middle of September.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th *August* 1931.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 11TH, 12TH AND 14TH TO 16TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

I.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 11TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee re-assembled in the Secretariat at Fort St. George at 11-30 a.m. this morning. The morning was spent in discussing the principles underlying the grant of special pays and allowances. In the afternoon the Committee examined the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police regarding the special pays and allowances granted to various grades of officers and men in the Police Department. Their examination had not been completed by the end of the day, but they were able to recommend the total abolition of certain allowances and a considerable reduction in the rates of others. In particular the Committee recommended that the special allowances now given to Deputy and Assistant Commissioners of Police should be reduced from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50, that the rates of C.I.D. special pays for various grades should be lowered and that a small reduction of two annas should be made in the uniform allowance of one rupee per mensem now given to all head constables and constables. This last item will involve a sacrifice of Rs. 1-8-0 a year for each head constable and constable and will result in a saving of Rs. 36,000 a year to Government.

2. The Committee also considered that a $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent reduction should be effected in the lump sum grants at present given for the initial purchase of uniforms to various grades of Police officers and asked the Inspector-General to examine and report upon the question whether a distinct uniform was necessary for the City Police and what economies would be secured by making the City Police uniform in all ranks identical with that used in the mufassal.

II.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 12TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee this morning completed their examination of allowances and special pays in the Police Department. The Committee recommended a cut of 50 per cent in the special pays of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police and the Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., to be partially compensated for by the grant of a Madras allowance to meet the extra cost of house-rent. The special pays of the two Deputy Superintendents employed in the C.I.D. office were also recommended for reduction. Similar but somewhat smaller cuts were recommended in the special pays now drawn for various special duties by the City Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors.

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2. The Committee then took up the special pays and allowances of Secretariat officers and decided to recommend that the special pay of Rs. 250 now drawn by Secretaries to Government should be reduced to Rs. 100 and that corresponding reductions should be made in the special pays of Deputy and Under Secretaries. At the same time they agreed that these officers might be given allowances in accordance with a general scheme to cover the extra cost of house-rent in Madras.

3. The allowances in a number of minor departments were then examined and the most important recommendation made was that the special pay of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies should be abolished and be replaced by a Madras house allowance, in accordance with a general scheme.

4. The large special pay of Rs. 400 now drawn by the Secretary of the Madras Services Commission also evoked considerable criticism and the Committee eventually recommended that no Government servant appointed to this post should receive more than the special pay granted to an Under Secretary to Government in addition to his grade pay.

5. The general question of shorthand and typing allowances was also discussed, and the Committee decided to recommend that all existing allowances should be continued to their present holders as personal pays, but that in future only one allowance should be granted for shorthand qualifications and none for typing. The shorthand allowance of Rs. 25 should be confined to those who passed the higher test and should only be granted for two years at a time, its renewal being dependent on periodical requalification according to the latest standards.

III.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 14TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

1. The Committee spent the whole day in examining the various allowances and special pays granted in the Medical Department. The Surgeon-General was present throughout. In addition to a number of smaller cuts, the Committee decided to make certain important recommendations.

2. In the first place they considered that no special pay should be granted to the Principals of colleges or Superintendents of hospitals and schools in virtue of added responsibility. They agreed however that the holders of such posts might be given compensation for loss of private practice, where the tenure of the post involved prohibition of such practice, and that those stationed in Madras might receive Madras allowances under whatever scheme may be made applicable to other officers in similar positions.

3. Secondly, with reference to the numerous teaching allowances that are now given to professors and lecturers in colleges and schools, the Committee considered that large reductions should be made. They recommended that the members of the staff of a hospital to whose duties as such are added the duties of teaching in a medical college or school might be entitled to teaching allowances at rates varying from Rs. 75 to Rs. 20 according to the grade of the service to which they belong.

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4. Thirdly, the Committee agreed with the Surgeon-General that the allowances now given to medical officers doing X-Ray work on the ground of the dangerous nature of the duty should be abolished. The Committee were impressed by the very large number of different allowances now granted to the members of the nursing service. The Surgeon-General assured the Committee that the supply of nurses, even at the present rates, was difficult to maintain and the Committee eventually decided not to abolish the allowances, but to make certain percentage cuts in the rates.

IV.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 15TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

Although to-day was a holiday, the Committee continued their examination of special pays and allowances. They dealt with the allowances in the Jails, Veterinary, Industries, Fisheries, Labour and Miscellaneous departments and recommended considerable reductions. Perhaps the most important were the abolition of the special pays now attached to the posts of Director of Industries and Commissioner of Labour and also of the special pays given to revenue officers performing the duties of District Labour Officers and Inspectors. In the Jails Department certain reductions were recommended in the rates of allowances to Medical Officers for medical charge of Central Jails and in the Fisheries Department most of the special pays drawn by one officer or another were recommended for abolition. The abolition of the special pays of the Principal and the Lecturers in the Veterinary College was also recommended.

2. In the afternoon the Committee examined a scheme for the revision of Presidency allowances prepared by the Secretary. The main feature of this scheme is the replacement of the present flat rates of Presidency allowances by a series of variable house allowances to meet the actual amount of rent paid by an officer in excess of the ordinary 10 per cent of his salary that he is expected to pay when occupying Government quarters. Schedule rates of house allowances would be laid down and would be regarded as maxima. The actual amount payable would depend on the amount required in individual cases. The Committee agreed that a scheme of this nature might be introduced for gazetted officers, but reduced the schedule rates proposed. According to their recommendation the maximum rates for gazetted officers in future will vary from Rs. 80 to Rs. 35. So far as non-gazetted officers were concerned, the Committee considered that the enquiries necessitated by such a scheme would be out of proportion to the economy likely to be secured. They therefore recommended reduced flat rates of house allowances for non-gazetted officers varying from Rs. 18 to Rs. 4.

V.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 16TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

1. The Retrenchment Committee to-day completed their examination of allowances and special pays except for one or two small items. The departments dealt with included Education, Forests, Excise, Land Revenue and District Administration, Public Works, Agriculture,

Judicial and Miscellaneous. The Committee pursued a consistent policy of recommending the abolition of a large number of special pays grouped under the heading of added responsibility, including those at present granted to Principals of Colleges, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, the Principals of the Forest and Agricultural Colleges, the Forest Working Plans Officers and Research Officer, the Headquarters Deputy Director of Agriculture and other similar posts. They also recommended the abolition of the "arduous duties" special pay at present drawn by Settlement Officers. They agreed that a small special pay might be given to the Secretary and two Assistant Secretaries in the Board of Revenue on the analogy of secretariat departments.

2. They also recommended reductions in almost all conveyance allowances in the above departments and the complete abolition of some allowances of this description.

3. The Committee have thus succeeded, during their present session of five meetings, in making an exhaustive survey of many hundreds of allowances, which it is hoped will result in very considerable economy.

4. The Committee will meet again for about a week on the 20th October.

FORT ST. GEORGE, G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
17th September 1931. *Retrenchment Secretary.*

APPENDIX XXVIII.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

Dated Fort St. George, the 14th September 1931.

The following summary of the progress achieved in the matter of retrenchment during the current financial year may be of general interest.

2. The Retrenchment Committee have held two sessions—the first, consisting of four meetings, in Ootacamund, and the second, consisting of nine meetings, in Madras. They are at present holding their third session in Madras.

3. The Committee have examined in detail the expenditure of five departments, viz., Medical, Public Health, Jails, Registration and Labour; and their resulting recommendations are calculated to secure